

November 26, 1976

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CIRCULATE TO:  
DIRECTOR  
PETROLEUM ENGINEER  
MINE COORDINATOR  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT  
ALL

MEMO TO FILE:

Re: Atlas Minerals  
Rim-Columbus Mine  
Sec.s 19, 20, 29, & 30,  
T. 31 S., R. 25 E.  
San Juan County, Utah

RETURN TO *Ju*  
FOR FILING

ACT/037/006

On November 11, 1976, Pat Driscoll and Brian Buck of the Division, along with Mr. Brad Clark of Atlas inspected the Rim-Columbus underground uranium mine in the Lisbon Valley area.

This mine is presently being worked through one shaft and one incline, with another incline in the process of being driven. The total operation is relatively small and mining is expected to last for only five more years.

The mine produces from the Salt Wash Member of the Morrison Formation. The waste rock is mostly a white, medium grained, sandstone which contains enough clay to give the material fairly high strength when compacted on the dumps. The angle of repose is about 50 degrees and the compacted dump surfaces are very hard. The only vegetation able to naturally revegetate this hard, nutrient deficient material appears to be russian thistle.

Native vegetation observed was; pinyon pine, juniper, russian thistle, rabbit brush, oak brush, Utah serviceberry, mormon tea, shadscale, greasewood, cheatgrass, indian ricegrass, and yucca.

Brad mentioned that he is experimenting with various revegetation schemes and hopes to have refined an adequate one for this operation in a number of years.

Brian, Pat and Brad discussed what methods would be most appropriate for stabilizing the roads and dumps. They came to verbal agreement on the basic re-grading and soil preparation scheme that would be the best for this operation. The plant species to be planted would probably reflect Brad's results from his research combined with the Division's past experience.

DIVISION OF OIL, GAS, AND MINING

Brian W. Buck  
Engineering Geologist

BWB/lm